4/15/69

Dear Paul,

Today is the last of Jill's employment, so from now on my day will be less broken up, more conducive to continuous work, so I am writing, where I abominate interruptions of any kind. I have been spending odds and bits of time lately in trying to integrate more of the unclassified files into the primitive classification I improvise as I go, with cording on much. Beginning early this t.m. I went over the file of correspondence with you and removed your memos, etc, and filed them by subject. I will refer to each below. If I fail to mention any, I hope when you have time you will send me a copy it it, or them.

It is a great tragedy that we had no integrated filing system available to us, for this makes one of the major problems of retrieval of information. As time goes on and I forget more, or am unable to keep so much in mind, this becomes more acute. I was often reminded of this as I glanced through this file.

For example, a brief Schmitt note on Gaudet: I had forgotten he had noted that Gaudet was the source on the Ruby painting purchse from Larry Borenstein. You have my memo on my interview with Borenstein. When months ago Garrison and Moo both asked me to see Borenstein, first speaking to Bethell, who had gotten nothing from him, Tom raised so much fuss I didn't. I finally met him by accident. I wish I had been able to see him alone. Someone, including strangers, was always with us. Once it was a friend of Thornley's, who I know fairly well and do not trust, not alone for this reason. His name is Jack Burnside.

Digressions: Borenstein I am told is Trotsky's nephew and may possibly be a millionaire today. In any event, the indications are he is quite rich.

From the same source, a former Bay of Pigs prisoner who has been friendly, I learn that Gaudet has seemed to be a "Luftmensch", who folded his magazine last month. He apparently was able to get support (including financial) from Latin American governments and other sources enabling him to survive previous financial crises. I had not known of the reproduction of Harvey H. Weers (Times-Picayune 5/26/68) from West Point) but there are two similarly-named Gaudets in N.O. and when you see the complete version of COUP you'll see the address of the right one. I have added much on him. There is also a second publication with the same name as his (source ibid), the second of the Citizens' Committee for a Free Cuba. Paul Bethel, editor. Formerly U.S. Embassy Havana. Further digression: some source says Nixon's great and good friend Bebe Rebozo (approx) is a Cuban who fled 1935 with family from Machado, is pro-Batista (strongly). Sources lived with him briefly on return to U.S. Nixon has good connections, especially if he consults on policy!

In one of your unzerexed memos you refer to one Bearing Gonzalez, from Weyneni Johnson's book (or is it Hal' Hemming). This is probably Morejon, the one of interest. He gave the wrong name when captured fearing the consequences of his past of his connections. Same source, who was with him. He is till of interest, same reason.

Your 5/7/65 memo on literature distribution: par 3., there is another alternative, that it was physically impossible, as if the informant were in a car, cab of bus. I seem to recall one report in which an informant was in a bus or car. The trolley would be quite limiting, since there is but one in N.O. today, the St. Charles.

At this point, while I was changing paper, I got a phone call from Joe. In a way it is encouraging. He is going over the files, weeding out all the leads to Constantinople, Bangkok and all the other things outside of N.O. He is now interested in these many leads they did not and could not follow because of all the primrose paths they trod. I suppose this means Shaw-Ferrie connections. Anyway, they are finding interesting things , some possibly wrong or unimportant (like a reference to Oswald giving out leaflets on Gravier Street).

No. 3: it was much more than a few minutes. Jesse Core had time to get back from wherever he was after his secretary phoned him and told him of the picketing, and Oswald was around for a while thereafter. He and deBrueys were friends. Have you any further conjectures or evidence on FBI personnel viewing of picketing?

With this was an Archives xxxxxx reference, no Quiroga reports. May I have a copy? I think that is quite significant for a number of reasons, only one of which is that he arranged for the INCA interest. Another is the peculiar content of the cited reports, another is its out-of-character aspects, etc. I was told in N.O that he seemed terrified when questioned there, as I recall. When the FBI went so far out of its ways to avoid giving his name or in any way identifying him, as in the Banister report (Wall), it flags our interest.

Par 14:"Another FBI informant is someone in INCA". Is this in the sense of someone regularly working with/for them or someone keeping inxtouch, like Butler undoubtedly would? If not him, do you know who?

Your reference (17:764) to Bartes: is it not interesting that he is not really identified? Or asked about his name in INC's notebook when he was later reinterviewed by all?

12/12/67, your thoughts about the Allen-Scott Report. They undoubtedly have the Senate Internal Security, House Unamericans and FBI among their sources. They have had SISC stuff fed them.

12/21/67, Unidentified man: Do I have your letters on this? If not, may I, please?

12/17/67, Quigley: Is it not seeing strange that there is no report from him on this seemingly important thing before the end of the Commission's life? Is there something not here I do not now recall? Very odd. If you have a copy of the Wehrer story, I'd like to read it carefully. I know a writer by that name. He was not unfriendly when we met. In connection with this memo, you may want to recall one I sent you after speaking to Barbara Reid about her interview with someone who knew Quigley well and a comparison between this and the report Boxley wrote. She took him along. His was entirely inadequate.

11/29, 21, Oswald's lit. This mistake, as I believe I once wrote you, was not likely by the Government Printing Office. I have dealt with them extensively. They take no liberties, insisted, then at least, on having everything in writing. If only the fingerprints that might have been on it, I tend to favor the view that there may have been something a little different about that particular leaflet. The GPO would not have known to write out the thing that disclosed the switch.

9/24/67 deBrueys. Do I have a copy of that 10/25/63 report? I think not. I'd like to go over it carefully. (CD1114) When you wonder about him, may I remind you (par. 3) that he regularly attended Cuban N.O. meetings, threatened Rene after R's testimony? Was a Cuban expert, with Cuban informants? Epstein pointing out no affidavit from him: Most likely, I think, pointed out to him by Liebeler. R. didn't dig

If this conjecture is correct, I suggest the fact had a warning to Fiebelkorn other than he imparted to L.

10/29/67, Butler: May I have the cursing letter? That little affair may have had much more significance. If you can spare me two copies of the partial transcript, I'd like to file one with Boggs, one with Ochsner. Do you have pamphlet "Oswald Speaks"? If you can send me these, two, would you please write these two names on the back, for by the time you have time, I may have forgotten my purpose.

8/29/67, Cordell Hull Foundation. Everything you say here is correct. However, there was a kind of competition and there were some personal dislikes and antagonisms. John, for example, vs Brent and Shaw (and Bermudez may have been less Chase's friend than on the surface seems to be the case). There was pressure against founding ITM in the IM, I'm told. Now the ITM seems likeresl estate only.

7/16/68, Militant and Worker memo. Do you have the WSJ article saying there were Washington officials looking forward to a successful assassination of Castro. If not, can you copy that part of the IIPR article, please?

On another subject, Bernabei is doing excellent thinking on the rifle and ballistics. His work will soon be proven, I believe. My own rifle still does not have the sight mounted because, apparently, it required a special threads for the mounting screws and the gunsmith was so determined to make it exactly the same he was reluctant to use different screws with different threads!

Sincerely,

Ulhorn International has a fascinating sound (Schmitt May 8, 1968). Anything more? That Al Secchro report looks more and more interesting. I have not been able to spend the requisitetime on it in N.O., but I have found a woman who was at one of the parties Oswald was supposed to have attended. She thinks he was there, and it was not far from his home. The FBI really leaned on the people who were at that one. So, they have been quiet about it, I fear. O was not alone when he arrived.